

# Calendar No. 1452

77TH CONGRESS }  
2d Session }

SENATE

{ REPORT  
No. 1404

## CHANGING THE DESIGNATION OF THE FORT MARION NATIONAL MONUMENT IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA

MAY 26, 1942.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on Public Lands and Surveys,  
submitted the following

### REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 3937]

The Committee on Public Lands and Surveys, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 3937) to change the designation of the Fort Marion National Monument in the State of Florida, and for other purposes, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and with the recommendation that the bill do pass.

An identical bill (H. R. 8353) was passed by the House of Representatives on July 1, 1940, and was reported to the Senate by the Senate Committee on Public Lands and Surveys on September 9, 1940. The report of the Department of the Interior to the chairman of the Committee on the Public Lands of the House on this identical bill is hereinbelow set forth in full and made a part of this report.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
Washington, May 21, 1940.

HON. RENÉ L. DEROUEN,  
*Chairman, Committee on the Public Lands, House of Representatives.*

MY DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Further reference is made to the request of your committee for the views of this Department on H. R. 8353, entitled "A bill to change the designation of the Fort Marion National Monument, in the State of Florida, and for other purposes."

I recommend that H. R. 8353 be enacted. However, your attention is called to legislation pending before the Congress (H. R. 7068, S. 2731) which would include the Fort Marion National Monument, as well as the Fort Matanzas National Monument, in an area to be known as the St. Augustine National Historical Park. In the event such legislation is enacted, it is believed the name of Fort Marion may be changed by administrative action without further legislation.

Fort Marion originally was named the Castillo de San Marcos by its Spanish builders. Begun in 1672, this fort is the oldest masonry defensive work still standing in the United States. Throughout the period of Spanish control in Florida it

## CHANGE DESIGNATION OF FORT MARION MONUMENT

continued to bear the name of Castillo de San Marcos. Following the purchase of Florida by the United States, the name of the fort was changed to Marion, in honor of Francis Marion, famous soldier and patriot of the American Revolution, but the fort remained much as it was under Spain. Primarily because of its vital association for 150 years with the Spanish history of Florida, the fort, in 1924, was proclaimed by the President as the Fort Marion National Monument.

I have been advised by the Director of the Bureau of the Budget that there would be no objection by that Bureau to the presentation of this report to the Congress.

Sincerely yours,

HAROLD L. ICKES,  
*Secretary of the Interior.*